

WI-245  
William M. Day House  
Salisbury  
Private

1898

Built in 1898 on the northwest corner of East Isabella and Poplar Hill Avenue, the William M. Day house is a fine, well-preserved example of domestic Queen Anne architectural design. The asymmetrically planned dwelling, raised on an elevated brick foundation, is extended by two-and-a-half story pavilions projecting from the south and east sides as well as shed roof porches on the south, east, and west sides. Attached to the back of the house is an original one-room plan summer kitchen that is joined by a gable roofed hyphen. The house as well as the kitchen are sheathed with narrow, round-edged weatherboards milled so that each single weatherboard appears outwardly as two separate boards. Each board is nested with the adjacent boards with rabbetted edges. The house displays a combination of Victorian exterior finishes including turned post porches, fishscale shingles, and open eaves with exposed rafter ends. The interior remains largely unaltered as well with multiple rooms featuring paint-decorated slate mantels, tiled hearths, and turned baluster staircases. One of the most distinctive interior elements is the arched entrance screen trimmed with turned spindles. While numerous Newtown houses formerly included semidetached summer kitchens, only a few survive in their original state. Most summer kitchens have either been torn down and replaced and incorporated within later additions. The use of a summer kitchen, attached to the main house by an open breezeway known as a hyphen or colonnade, dates back to the mid eighteenth century, and continual use of this form of service wing can be traced from the second quarter of the eighteenth century through the early

twentieth century.

The construction of this house is closely tied down by family tradition and land record research to 1898 when William Mitchell Day purchased a corner lot measuring 63'9" across East Isabella Street and 290'9" along Poplar Hill Avenue. William M. Day, a prominent lumber dealer, subdivided the lot. He financed construction of this ambitious Queen Anne style house that year, and the Sanborn Insurance Company documents the location of this house on the corner lot on its 1899 map. On adjacent lots he financed construction of somewhat smaller Queen Anne style houses, which he later sold. William M. Day resided here until his death in 1932, when the property passed to his four children. The property remains in Day family hands.

## MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: William M. Day House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-245

## MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial-Urban Dominance  
1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-245

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic WILLIAM M. DAY HOUSE

and/or common

### 2. Location

street & number 119 East Isabella Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Salisbury ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Michael H. and Katherine W. Day

street & number 119 East Isabella Street telephone no.: 410-742-4883

city, town Salisbury state and zip code Maryland 21801

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber 1003

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 260

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. WI-245

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The William M. Day house is located at 119 East Isabella Street in the Newtown district of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story Queen Anne frame house faces south with the peak of the hip roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Documented by family tradition and land record research to 1898, the two-and-a-half story, asymmetrically planned frame house rests on a raised common bond brick foundation with a partially excavated cellar. The house is sheathed with a combination of weatherboard siding and fishscale shingles, and the steeply pitched hip and gable roofs are covered with green asphalt shingles. The house is extended to the rear by a single story summer kitchen, joined to the main block by an open hyphen roof. A small, single bay, gable roofed garage joins the house on this corner lot, which is bounded by East Isabella Street and Poplar Hill Avenue.

The south (main) elevation is an asymmetrical facade with a centrally positioned entrance sheltered by a shed roof front porch. The double leaf front door is highlighted by elaborate Victorian panels, and the entire entrance is topped by a three-light transom. Piercing the wall to the east is a large single-pane sash window, which, along with the entrance, is sheltered by the turned column porch. The porch is accented with a restored turned baluster handrail and a beaded tongue-and-groove board ceiling. Fixed atop the porch roof and aligned with the entrance is a small cross gable. The enclosed tympanum is sheathed with fishscale shingles. Projecting from the west side of the main block is a two-and-a-half story, five-sided pavilion, which is pierced on three sides by single-pane sash windows on each floor. The face of the gable front roof is sheathed with fishscale shingles, and it is pierced with a triple set of fifteen-pane windows. Balancing the two-and-a-half story pavilion is a large gable roof dormer that marks the main roof slope. Sheathed with fishscale shingles, the front of the dormer is pierced by a Palladian window with multi-pane sash. The edges to the roof are finished with open eaves, exposed rafter ends, and decorated bargeboards. Piercing the steeply pitched roofs of the main block are interior chimneys finished with corbelled caps.

The east elevation is an asymmetrical facade with a two-and-a-half story pavilion marking the southeast corner and a shed roofed porch sheltering the first floor. Single-pane sash windows pierce the first and second floors, and a gable roof sheathed with fishscale shingles covers the pavilion. The porch roof is supported on turned posts, with a restored turned baluster handrail stretching between the posts. A five-panel side door with transom is framed by a plain surround, and it is flanked on the north side by a large sized single-pane sash window. The second floor is pierced by single-pane sash windows as well.

The west side of the house is an uneven wall surface with the front or main block pierced by single-pane sash windows. The rear wing is slightly recessed and incorporates a second floor porch with turned posts and a sawn baluster handrail. A side entrance opens into an enclosed rear porch.

(Continued)

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

William M. Day House

119 East Isabella Street

Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

The north wall of the house is partially covered by single story hyphen that joins a single-story, one-room plan summer kitchen to the main block. The floor of the hyphen has been removed, but the roof remains intact. The kitchen, supported on a high masonry foundation, is sheathed with narrow weatherboards and it is covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. A single-flue brick stove chimney rises through the gable end. Piercing the side walls are long two-over-two sash windows. Entrance to the kitchen is gained through a four-panel door on the south wall.

The interior of the house has experienced few alterations since the late nineteenth century. A center stair passage divides the front half of the house with formal rooms to each side. A secondary stair hall is located on the east side of the house and divides the east side of the dwelling laterally. The front hall is partitioned visually by an arched, turned spindle screen supported on a turned post. Five-panel late nineteenth century doors, surviving with original hardware, are framed by molded surrounds with machine-decorated corner blocks. A circular pattern embellishes the face of each block, which treated with a sawtooth shaped top edge. The turned baluster, quarter turn staircase features a closed stringer and a paneled newel post topped by a ball finial. A molded baseboard trims the perimeter of the room. Located in the north (rear) end of the hall is another five-panel door, topped by a movable transom, which opens into the east side stair passage.

The back hall contains a turned baluster staircase as well with a closed stringer and a squarish newel post topped by a ball finial. Located between the two halls is the front parlor or living room which is served by a corner fireplace framed by a paint-decorated slate mantel. The surface decoration follows patterns popularized by Charles Eastlake. The face of the firebox and the hearth are tiled.

On the opposite side of the house the dining room is served by a corner fireplace as well. A columned oak mantel framed the firebox, which is covered with glazed tiles along with the hearth. Paneled pocket doors separate the front dining room from a back parlor, now used as a kitchen. The current kitchen has a corner fireplace framed by a paint decorated slate mantel. The firebox is arched. Counters and hanging cupboards have been added to this room to serve as a modern kitchen.

The original dining room and kitchen were located on the north side of the house on the north side of the back hall. A built-in cupboard and columned mantel with overmantel distinguish the northeast room formerly used for dining. An applied plaster wreath decoration embellishes the frieze of the mantel.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-245

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Built in 1898 on the northwest corner of East Isabella and Poplar Hill Avenue, the William M. Day house is a fine, well-preserved example of domestic Queen Anne architectural design. The asymmetrically planned dwelling, raised on an elevated brick foundation, is extended by two-and-a-half story pavilions projecting from the south and east sides as well as shed roof porches on the south, east, and west sides. Attached to the back of the house is an original one-room plan summer kitchen that is joined by a gable roofed hyphen. The house as well as the kitchen are sheathed with narrow, round-edged weatherboards milled so that each single weatherboard appears outwardly as two separate boards. Each board is nested with the adjacent boards with rabbetted edges. The house displays a combination of Victorian exterior finishes including turned post porches, fishscale shingles, and open eaves with exposed rafter ends. The interior remains largely unaltered as well with multiple rooms featuring paint-decorated slate mantels, tiled hearths, and turned baluster staircases. One of the most distinctive interior elements is the arched entrance screen trimmed with turned spindles. While numerous Newtown houses formerly included semidetached summer kitchens, only a few survive in their original state. Most summer kitchens have either been torn down and replaced and incorporated within later additions. The use of a summer kitchen, attached to the main house by an open breezeway known as a hyphen or colonnade, dates back to the mid eighteenth century, and continual use of this form of service wing can be traced from the second quarter of the eighteenth century through the early twentieth century.

The William M. Day house deserves listing in *Category A*, which identifies dwellings that must be retained due to their architectural and/or historical significance. This house has survived the past century with few major changes, and it contributes significantly to the Newtown Historic District.

(Continued)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WI-245

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

date 3/19/96

street &amp; number P. O. Box 5

telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover

state Maryland 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600



### 8.1, SIGNIFICANCE

William M. Day House

119 East Isabella Street

Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

The construction of this house is closely tied down by family tradition and land record research to 1898 when William Mitchell Day purchased a corner lot measuring 63'9" across East Isabella Street and 290'9" along Poplar Hill Avenue.(1) William M. Day, a prominent lumber dealer, subdivided the lot. He financed the construction of this ambitious Queen Anne style house that year, and the Sanborn Insurance Company documents the location of this house on the corner lot on its 1899 map.(2) On adjacent lots in financed construction of somewhat smaller Queen Anne style houses, which he later sold. William M. Day resided here until his death in 1932 when the property passed to his four children. The property remains in Day family hands.(3)

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1 Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 22/55, 2/19/1898.

2 Sanborn Insurance Map, 1899, Salisbury.

3 Wicomico County Land Record, 1003/260, 11/28/1983.

WI-245  
William M. Day House  
119 East Isabella Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

1003/260 William Edward Barnett, Los Angelos, Ca.  
and David D. Day and Donald C. Day, Personal  
Representatives of the Estate of Nellie  
Mitchell Day

to

11/28/1983 Michael Harrison Day  
Katherine Wood Day  
Lot No. 1 on plat recorded among the land  
records of Wicomico County EAT 53/496

AJS 948/16 Donald C. Day, Personal Represenative of  
the Estate of Ethel D. Barnett

to

6/18/1980 William Edward Barnett  
Undivided 2/3 interest  
and further being the same land acquired by  
Nellie Mitchell Day, as to an undivided 1/3  
interest, as follows, upon the death intestate  
of William M. Day during or about the year  
1932, an undivided 1/4 interest in the above-  
described property was inherited by Charles  
E. Day, one of the four children of William  
M. Day, and likewise, an undivided 1/4 interest  
was inherited by Ola M. Day, a daughter of  
William M. Day, and upon the death of Ola M.  
Day she devised an undivided 1/12 interest in  
said real estate to her brother Charles E. Day  
by her last will and testament admitted to  
probate in the Orphan's Court October 3, 1944,  
JAH 2/313, all of which resulted in the said  
Charles E. Day becoming seized and possessed  
of an undivided 1/3 interest therein; upon the  
death of Charles E. Day, intestate, on  
December 28, 1950, said undivided 1/3 interest

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Page 2

William M. Day House  
119 East Isabella Street  
Chain of title continued

passed to his only heirs at law, his widow Nellie M. Day and five children, Dorothy Day Stevenson, William M. Day, David D. Day, Charles E. Day, and Donald C. Day, having conveyed their undivided interest in said property unto their mother Nellie M. Day, JWS 388/371 5/20/1955

JWS 388/372 Dorthy D. Stevenson and V. Hearne Stevenson, City of Toronto; William M. Day and Margaret T. Day, David D. and Laura H. Day of Caroline County, Charles E. Day and Elaine B. Day, New Castle County, Delaware, Donald C. Day and Fannie N. Day of Wicomico County, Maryland

to

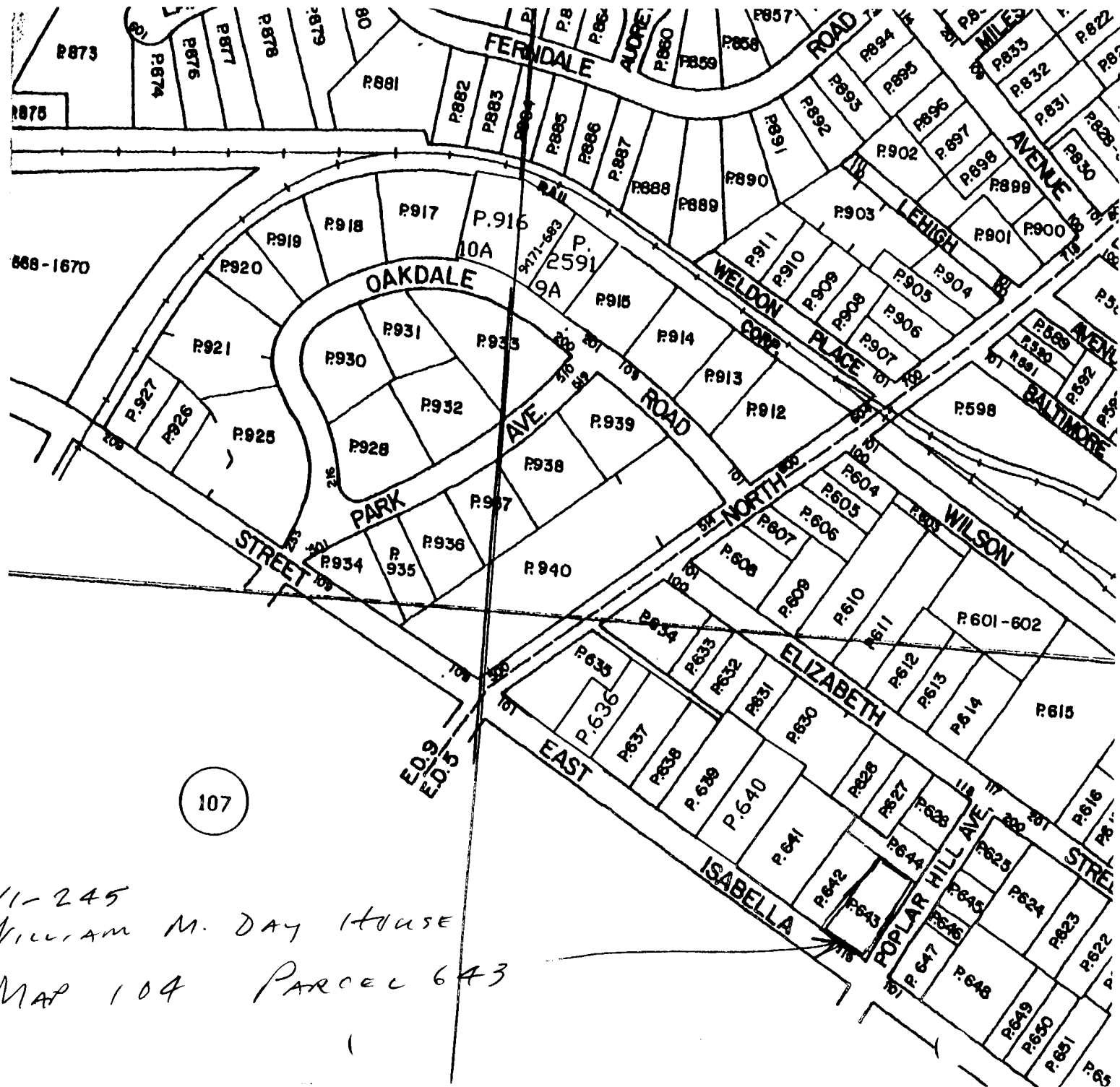
5/20/1955 Nellie M. Day  
undivided 2/9 interest

JTT 22/55 William J. Johnson  
Lida H. Johnson

to

2/19/1898 William M. Day  
\$680.00

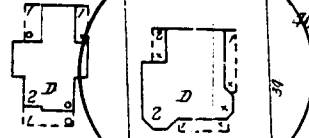
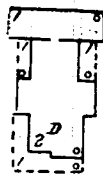
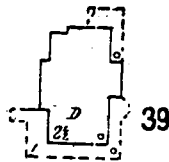
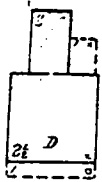
Lot bordering Poplar Hill Avenue 290'9" and  
East Isabella Street for 63'9"



W1-245  
 William M. Day House  
 Map 104 Parcel 643

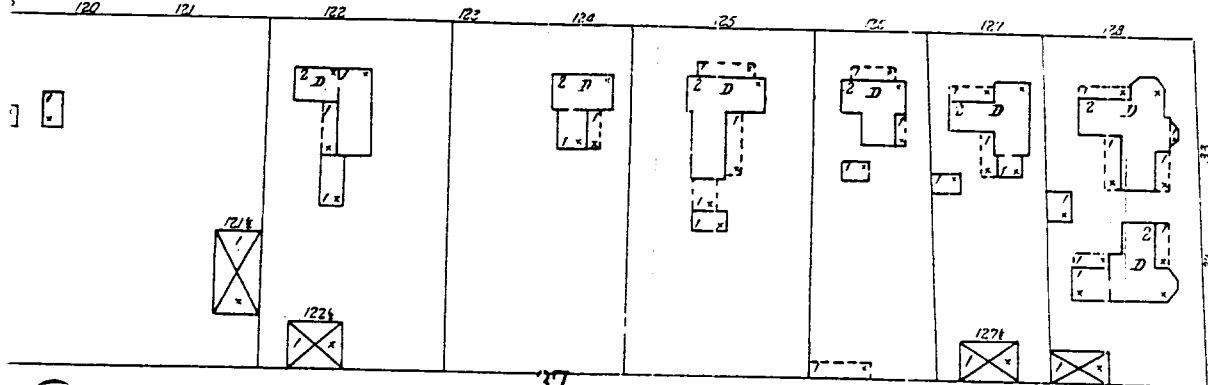
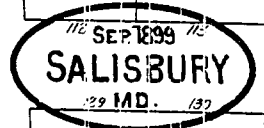
WI-245  
William M. Day House  
119 East Isabella Street

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1899

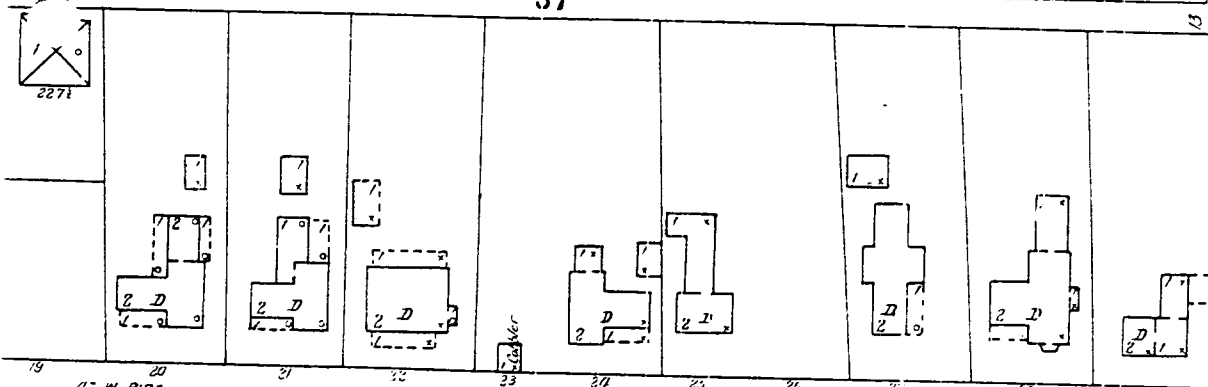


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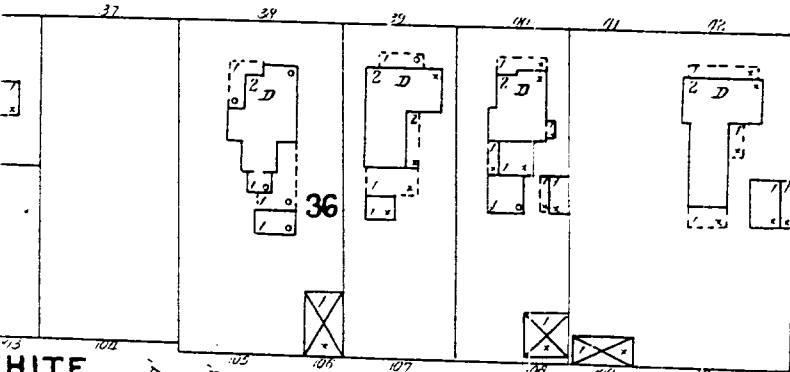
ISABELLA



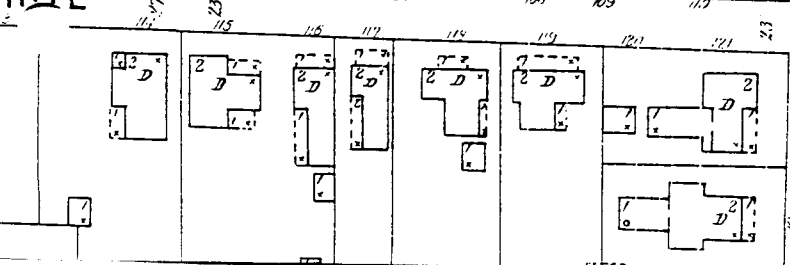
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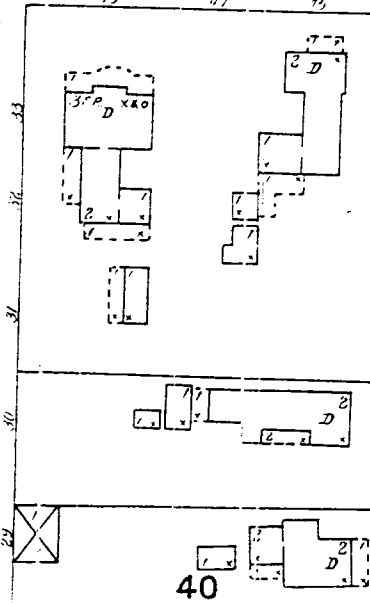
WILLIAM



WHITE

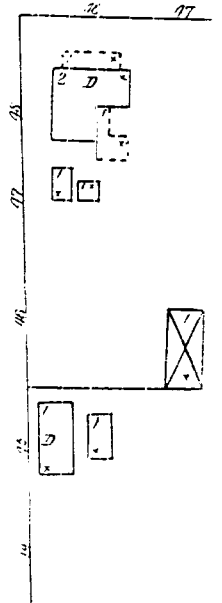


GAY



40

POPLAR HILL



AV.

25

WI-245  
William M. Day House  
119 East Isabella Street

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

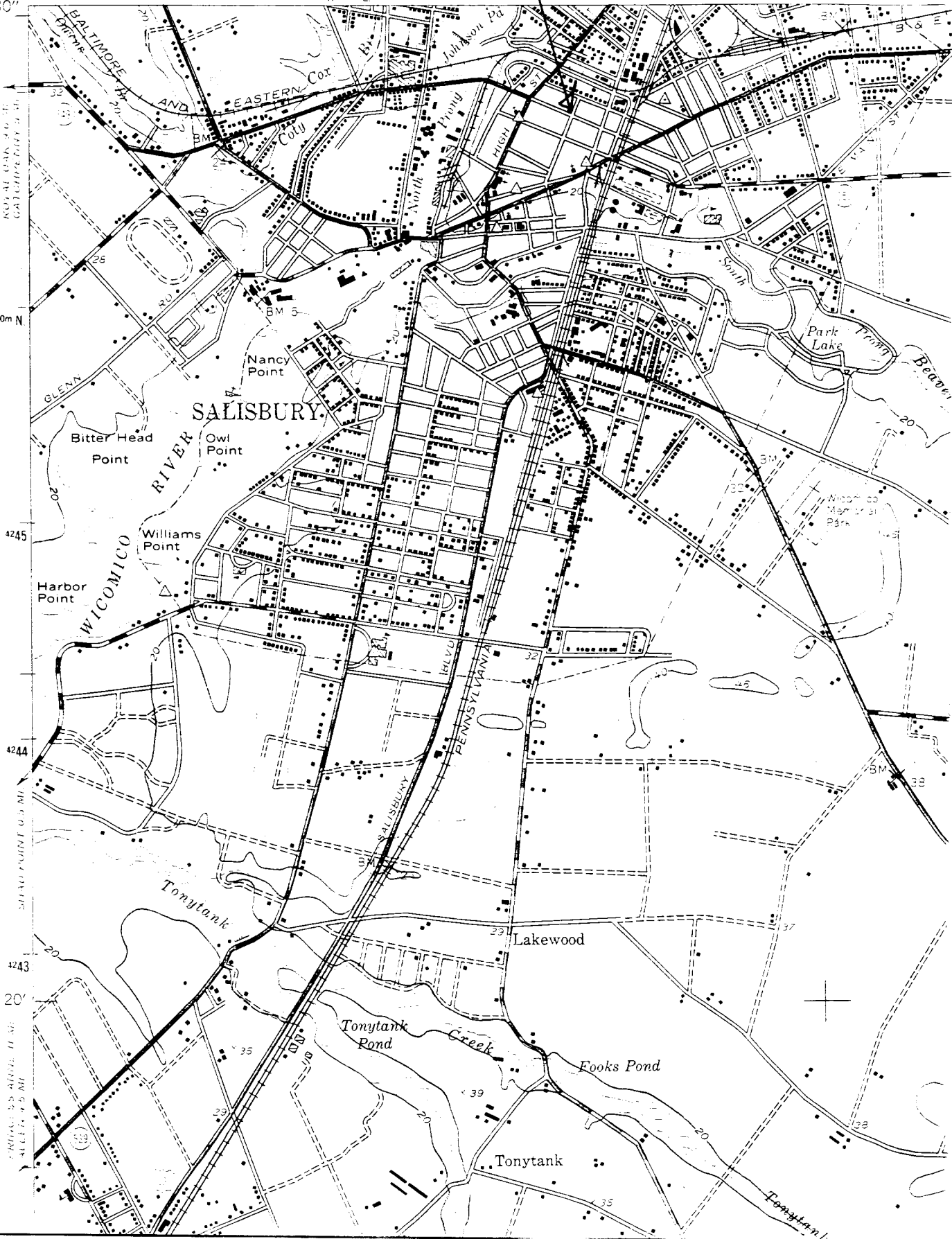
Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle  
1942

5860 LNW  
(HEBRON)

75°37'30"  
38°22'30"

47000m E

4246000m N





WI-245

WILLIAM M. DAY HOUSE  
SALISBURY, WICOMICO COUNTY, MD.

SUBJECT ELEVATION

3100, PAUL TOWNSEND, PITUITARY ADENOMA  
NO. 1 MD HISTORICAL TRUST





W-245

William M. Day House

Springfield, Wilcox County, MO.

South Elevation

3196, Paul Touret, photographer

NEG. AND HISTORICAL TALENT